PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

For: U/A NON-GELATIN CAPSULE SHELL FORMULATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action mailed April 8, 2003, the response thereto originally being due May 8, 2003, entry and consideration of the present preliminary amendment and remarks prior to examination of the claims on the merits are respectfully requested.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4 and 25.

Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A film-forming composition comprising:

a) iota carrageenan in an amount of from about 1% to about 15% by weight of the

composition;

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